

REMARKS

As stated in the Amendment filed on October 12, 2007, applicants' representative discussed the claims with the Examiner during a telephone interview of October 12, 2007 and, in response, cancelled claims 1-12, 15-16 and 18-23, and added claims 24-41. It is believed that this statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

However, in reply to the Office communication mailed on December 18, 2007 regarding the responsiveness of the above-noted Amendment with respect to the substance of the interview, applicants' representative further submits the following. During the telephone interview, applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed potential claim amendments, including completely filling the holes, using the nubs to make electrical connections between two components, and leaving a portion of the first and/or second conductive layer to electrically connect two filled holes. The amendments herein include these aspects; however, it is submitted that applicants are not conceding that the above-noted differences are the only patentable differences between applicants' invention and the art of record.

In view of the amendments, removal of the rejection and allowance of claims 24-41 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All pending claims distinguish patentably and non-obviously over the prior art of record. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
DRIGGS, HOGG & FRY CO., L.P.A.

Date: December 28, 2007

By: 

Anthony M. Del Zoppo, III Reg. No. 51,606
CUSTOMER NO. 26681

AMD:cg